



The Church of God Evangel



ALL NATIONS
MATT 28:19



EVERY CREATURE
MARK 16:15

CLEVELAND, TENN

GOD'S LOVE

**THE
PILLAR**

EPH 2:20

HOLD ON, HOLD ON

Lillian Conner

Hold on, hold on, just a little while longer,
The hour is almost here;
Put on a closer walk with Jesus,
And with Him have no fear.

The morning with all her glory,
Has been but now is gone;
The evening time with all her light
Is quickly passing on.

The twilight shadows are steadily drawing,
Who knows what they may bring—
Perhaps your Savior, a host of angels!
Doesn't that make you want to sing?

Hold on just a little longer, Brother,
All trials will soon be o'er;
Be ready when you hear the trumpet,
And you will walk the golden shore.

THE GROUND OF

**THE
TRUTH**

ITIM 3:15

Vol. 34, No. 38

"... Look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh," Luke 21:28.

November 27, 1943

NOTES From My LETTERS

By
J. H. WALKER
General Overseer

Thought you would be glad to know that for the third successive year Louisiana went over the top on her aged ministers' quota in the month of October. I mailed money orders to Brother Boehmer making a total of \$126.43. We had 1,130 members at the Assembly, which would make our quota \$113, so you see we surpassed it by about \$13.43.

Our fellowship services are going on in each district in the state this year and we are looking forward to a banner year in all departments of the Church. Remember us in your prayers.—W. C. Byrd, overseer of Louisiana.

TELEGRAM

Will soon have a new church building completed, costing approximately \$2,500.—Jim B. Dooley, pastor of Tifton (Ga.) church.

TELEGRAM

Great sweeping revival conducted by Rev. M. F. Campbell, of Chattanooga, Tennessee, still in progress. Twenty saved, ten sanctified, nine baptized with the Holy Ghost, dozens reclaimed, many miraculously healed. Inaugurating expansion program involving thousands of dollars. Wonderful people here.—Ernest L. Miller, Logan, W. Va.

Brother S. C. Elrod reports a good revival at Summerville, Georgia, with the pastor, Brother T. W. Waits. Many souls were blessed and nine received the baptism. November 7 is set as a special day to pay off the note on the church. Pray for the little church at Summerville.

Just a few lines to let you hear about our good work in Missouri. We have several revivals in progress and God is blessing. Cantwell is in its fifth week of a revival, and it is beginning to break through. Leadwood had the best revival they have had in a long time. They have a real nice little orchestra, and a good girls' quartet, and

the members and friends think Brother Jacobs is a wonder. One of the men told me the other night that he was the talk of the town. People are coming from the different churches to hear him, and the house is just about filled on Sunday nights. One of the good things I could hardly wait to tell you is that Brother Jacobs preached on "Missions" Sunday before last, and the Lord must have really given him the vision; and he in turn gave it to his people, for they began to give and pledge until they had \$750, and plan to make it \$1,000 before the year is over.

Things look good for a promising year and we are praying that God will help us to light a "candle" in Missouri that will never go out, not for our honor or glory but because there is a great NEED. We feel encouraged to press on.—G. R. Watson, overseer of Missouri.

TELEGRAM

Cantwell, Mo., having most spiritual revival in years. In six nights nine were saved, four sanctified, two received baptism, two joined church. All encouraged.—E. H. Miles, evangelist.

Just a few lines to say that God has graciously blessed since coming to Columbus. We have bought a nice lot downtown to construct a new building when material is available. We paid cash for the lot, which we bought at a bargain (\$840). We have organized one mission and signed a contract for one year's broadcast. Our station is DDAK, Columbus.

Pray for us that God will continue to bless throughout the year.—W. H. Godwin, Columbus, Georgia.

TELEGRAM

We had our ministers' meeting. Wonderful time in the Lord. Twelve ministers present. I am here in Buffalo, New York, in a revival. The Lord is blessing. We surely have a nice building. Please pray for us here that we can organize.—Carl Cox.

We are happy to report a great revival in progress here at Albemarle, North Carolina, with Rev. D. R. Robinson doing the preaching. He is the state evangelist. This week there have been twenty-seven saved, nine sanctified, and one filled with the Holy Ghost. God is still blessing.—Roscoe Conner, pastor.

(Continued on page 15)

Notices

Special

Dear Pastors:

Upon investigation, the general officials are convinced of the importance of service pastors and are asking you to furnish us the names and addresses of all the boys in service, both of our members and of our friends who were in attendance at our Sunday School and church services. Give full addresses and in event of a change, follow it up with a corrected address, please.—J. H. Walker, General Overseer.

To whom it may concern: If you have a son in the navy stationed at Fairgus Camp near Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, and you wish him to attend the Church of God, write me, giving his name and address. I will do my best for him.—Rev. Floyd A. Boger, 715 Superior St., Sandpoint, Idaho.

The Church of God On the Air

Ennis, W. Va., over station WHTS, Bluefield, W. Va., each Saturday morning from 6:30-7:00. A. W. Brummett, pastor.

(Continued on page 10)

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL Official Organ of the Church of God

Published weekly by
The Church of God Publishing House
Cleveland, Tennessee

E. C. CLARK, Editor and Publisher
Phone 21

EDITORIAL STAFF

James L. Slay, U. D. Tidwell, Clyde C. Cox, Alvin Thompson, F. J. Thibodeau, C. M. Keys, Zeno C. Thorp.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

One year, \$1.00; single copy, 5c.

Entered as second-class matter March 1, 1910, Cleveland, Tenn., under act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917. Authorized August 23, 1918.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

Institutions . . . Their Functions and Motives

By E. E. Coleman

(This is the second of five articles on the above named subject.)

THE CHURCH

Next in importance to the family is the Church. The Church was instituted as an instrument to help the families of earth. Had there been no families there would have been no need for a church. The Church will go into the future with the saved families of the earth. While the earth proper will be inhabited by the redeemed families of earth, the holy city, New Jerusalem, will be inhabited by the Church. The Church is an eternal body whose function will never end. However its responsibility as a soul-saving station ends with time. It will play another role in eternity.

The Church is an institution to the fullest extent of the word. It is an organization of literal human beings, who are born of God, Jesus Christ being the first-born and thereby the Head of all others who are born of God; so Jesus is the Head of the Church. The Church functions in the earth as the great family of God, the First-Born carrying out the will of the Father in the family (Church) under His command, just as the families of the Old Testament under divine leadership were governed.

The functions of the Church are many, but its power to perform is adequate. Jesus said, "Ye shall receive power after the Holy Ghost comes," so the Church derives its power from the fact that it is composed of people who are led by the Spirit of God, and of many who are baptized with and by the Spirit of God. Since all our dealings with God are based on faith, the Church has no more power than its members have faith to accept from God. Then since faith is based on obedience and consecration, the **POWER OF THE CHURCH IS LIMITED ONLY BY THE DEGREE OF THESE GRACES MANIFESTED BY THE CHURCH.** If its members **BELIEVE**, they may heal the sick, cast out devils, raise the dead, walk on water, heal leprosy, take up serpents, speak with new tongues, in

fact, do anything that will glorify God or serve to point a sinner to Christ.

God has promised the Church so much power that most of its members are staggered at the possibility of its being demonstrated. But Abraham was not staggered by the promise of God; He believed God. And if the Church will believe God, there are no impossibilities. Jesus said that if we had faith as a grain of mustard seed we could remove mountains and pluck up trees.

The Church is very much like the human body. Inactivity will dwarf it. It develops and grows only as it exercises its many powers and organs. The more the Church gives the world in service, the greater the Church becomes. Jesus said that he that would be the greatest must serve, and this is the law that governs the growth of the Church. It is great only as it serves in a great capacity.

The Church has a function that no other institution on earth can perform. When Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost," He gave by far the greatest commission that any institution has ever yet received. It is gratifying to know that He did not leave us to our own resources with this great task to perform, but He said, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come"; then He went away and sent the Holy Ghost to take over where He left off. So as long as the Church is led by the Spirit of God and kept by the power of God, its power to perform its varied functions will always be sufficient.

Paul tells us about the **GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT** being distributed in and to the Church. Please note that the gifts belong to the Spirit, and not to any individual, although any member in divine order may be used by the Spirit to manifest any of the gifts at any time, if it so please Him to whom they belong. But the member does not possess the gift. It still belongs to the Spirit. The member is

just a sanctified vessel for the Holy Ghost to use the gift through. The gifts do not belong to individuals to be used at their discretion, but they belong to the Holy Ghost to be used at His discretion.

There are many departments of the Church. I shall not try to treat them separately, but I would like for you to think of each of them as being a part of the great institution for which Jesus died. Your disloyalty to any of them is an act of disloyalty to the Church in general. The success of the Church depends on the success of these various departments. So wherever you are placed to work, remember you are working for Jesus, and you will not lose your reward.

The function of the Church is to get the gospel into all the world. Anything that will further the gospel is working hand in hand with God in His work of reconciliation. Anything that will hinder the gospel is keeping the Church from functioning as it should. The gospel is the story of the garden and the cross, with all their grim reality of blood and sweat and tears. And when the Church fails to carry the message of a bloody cross, it fails completely to perform its function. Nothing will reach a sinner as quickly as the message of a suffering, rejected, bleeding, despised Man of sorrow, dying in their stead. If this fails, tales of hell and future punishment seldom do any good. So we conclude that the message of the hour is the story of the cross, told with special emphasis on the blood that served to become our spiritual life, just as our own blood is our natural life. God said the life is in the blood. Without shedding of blood there is no remission.

Now let us consider the **MOTIVE** of the Church. Every worth-while institution has a motive. The Church has to have something to incite it to action. There must be a cause. There has to be something to be used as an inducement. There just has to be a purpose to every good thing. All this is motive. If we sum all this up in a

(Continued on page 15)

Religion and the World

BY THE EDITOR

Bible Paper Rationed

It is most unfortunate that WPB has seen fit to ration paper to the American Bible Society to the extent that production of Bibles will be somewhat slowed up. If we win the war without Bibles, we will have lost it while we won it. Dr. Robert T. Taylor, Secretary of the Chicago Bible Society, says that calls for the Bibles have increased 40 per cent over last year. "We are limited to 1,300 copies of the American Bible Society's Mission Edition," although the demands are for about 3,000 per month, Mr. Taylor said. He predicted a drive to collect "used Bibles" to resell to families having none.

Moscow Was Not Desired Haven

We were running through the book a few days ago and came across Mr. Davies' memo in his diary for March 9, 1937—when he was serving as U. S. Ambassador in Moscow. It reads: "There is scarcely a day but what our American chauffeur, 'Charlie' Gili-berl, is approached on the streets by some American who has taken out Soviet citizenship and who pleads that he intercede with the American authorities to help him to get back home. A thousand Communists came here in 1934-35 from Austria, so I am told by the Austrian Minister, took up citizenship in the promised land, cannot get out, and are all bending every effort to get back home."

Has the Leopard Changed His Spots?

Writing in *Midnight Cry*, Rev. Wm. Beirnes says, "Russian art has prostituted famous Christian paintings to an unthinkable degree. The Last Supper has been degraded to a drunken brawl. The Lord is pictured running a still and passing the liquor around to His drunken disciples. Most blasphemous of all is the Russian cartoon of the Trinity. God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son are pictured as decrepit old men sitting on the clouds, of heaven, while the Holy Spirit is shown as a crowing hen with half its feathers gone. God warns that 'all

sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme; but he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation' (Mark 3:28-29). Not only can individuals commit the unpardonable sin, but nations can be guilty as well. Russia is such a nation and she can not escape the direct judgments of God.

"Communism has destroyed over 30,000,000 lives in Russia. It has bathed Spain in blood. So vicious is the hatred of Gog against God that he plots world revolution."

Italian Protestants Reject Catholic Complaint

Time magazine, under date of November 1, gives us the following account of Italian Catholics in Brooklyn and those Protestant Italians of greater New York relative to future government in Italy and Allied possessions:

"With the invasion of Sicily *The Tablet*, official weekly of the Diocese of Brooklyn, fired the opening shot: 'In looking over the list of officials being sent to guide, if not to rule, an overwhelmingly Catholic country like Italy, we note the absence of practicing Catholics. . . . It would seem not only practical and fair, but intelligent and profitable, for the United States to send some representatives who understand the religion . . . of those whom they are to direct.'

"Next the annual convention of the Knights of Columbus demanded that Catholic Italian-Americans be put in charge of occupied Italian territory: ' . . . Care should be taken to avoid entrusting administrative functions to anyone who is professedly or generally known to be opposed to the general views of the Italian people on religion. . . .' In short, none but Catholics should administer occupied Italian territory.

"Then the Italian Protestant Ministers' Association of Greater New York jumped into the jihad, issued a statement: 'Here in America, Church

and State have complete separation. Candidates to public office are elected . . . not on the basis of their religious beliefs but on their ability to serve in that office. It is in this spirit that the American Government is sending to Italy men who are capable of handling its affairs regardless of their religious affiliations.' The Association's seventy-five ministers dubbed the Knights' demand 'most inopportune and brimful of that intolerance so often demonstrated by various agencies acting under the name of the Catholic Church.'"

The Best Kept Secret of the War

Claiming that the sacrifices and contributions of the Jews in this world war have been hush-hushed throughout the world, Pierre Van Paassen, in a series of articles on this subject in "*The Protestant*" (June-July issue) brings out facts that should be known to the world at large. We quote only a few:

(1) "A Jewish general organized and supervised Montgomery's 1,300 mile line from Libya to Bizerte. (2) A Jewish battalion held Tobruk, during its long siege, with other units. (3) Jewish men from the colonies of Palestine led British troops in their advance in Syria. (4) Jewish engineers built necessary bridges where no one thought it feasible. (5) Jewish Palestine, with its 7,000 factories, has been the backbone of the Middle East army.

"Thirty thousand Jewish soldiers have served in Britain's Eighth Army.

"A world free from persecution and a Jewish homeland in Palestine, will be the rewards of the Jewish people for having helped the United Nations to victory. In years to come, it will surely be remembered the Jews did their part by the side of the Allies."—*Prime Minister Jan Christian Smuts.*

Palestine To Print Hebrew Bible for the First Time in History

Revealing that preparations are now under way at the Hebrew University for the casting and setting of type, Dr. Magnes says, "The purpose of the University press is to publish an accepted text with scrupulous fidelity to every detail and to follow the Jewish tradition in all minutiae." Printing the Bible in Hebrew involves a tremendous undertaking, since the entire volume must be set by hand.—*Can. Jewish Chronicle.*

Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church

We have no record of Jesus having used this word but once. However, to prepare His disciples to carry out His plan for establishing the "Church" was the chief object of His teaching from the time the Pharisees, "held a council against him, how that they might destroy him" (Matt. 12:14-18). Jesus loved His disciples and knew they trusted that He was the One that should redeem Israel and on one occasion, in order to make an opportunity to explain to them the truth concerning His mission on earth, He asked the question: "Whom do men say that I am?" and Peter answered, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." Read Matt. 16:13-19a.

We, who have truly been born of the Spirit, can with perfect confidence give this same testimony; for at the time we met the condition, by confessing and forsaking our sins, the heavenly Father revealed this truth so clearly unto us that we never need to doubt so long as we continue to trust in the merits of the blood and walk in the light. When Peter got into the influence of the ungodly, he denied that he had ever known Christ (Mark 14:66-72), and this was after Jesus told His disciples that "He must go unto Jerusalem and suffer many things—and be killed, and be raised again the third day" (Matt. 16:21-23).

Was Jesus' object in telling them these things, that after it had come to pass they would know that He was the divine One, having all wisdom? It did this without question, but Jesus, wanting to strengthen them for the trying days that must come, told them many things they were able to understand, but they often were slow to grasp what He was trying to teach them. On this occasion Peter refused to listen, saying: "This shall not be unto thee" (Matt. 16:22). Jesus knew that Peter would backslide as the result of refusing to try to understand the plan of redemption which He was trying to reveal to them; and the rest of the disciples suffered as the result of a lack of understanding, as we will see by reading Luke 24:13-27. How I would have liked to listen to that discourse as "He expounded unto them—the scriptures of the things concerning himself," v. 23-27. Peter finally got the message as we will see in Acts 15:13-18, where we find these

L. NEWTON

words: "God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name," and we are waiting for that day when He will catch His bride away; and, "After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up: *That the residue of men might seek after the Lord*, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things."

If they had only listened and tried to understand the things that Jesus had told them! We get a glimpse of His regret in these words of loving reproof, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken."

Now that we have ample reason to believe that the time of the Gentiles is soon coming to a close, and this old world is facing more trying days than it has ever known before, should we not seek to understand God's plans? which He has left for our "instruction—that the man of God might be—thoroughly furnished" for the work that needs to be done? (2 Tim. 3:16, 17). Prophecy is a decla-

ration in advance concerning the plans which God has purposed to carry out. He does not intend that the wicked shall understand (Dan. 12:9, 10) but to those who would be workers together with Him, who will come expressing their need, He has promised to provide wisdom liberally (James 1:5-7) to meet the trials which are at hand. The nearer we approach that time, the clearer our hope becomes, for "Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many: and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation" (Heb. 9:28). If we are really looking and hoping for His return, we will not overlook the instructions He has left concerning the preparation for His coming.

Christ will not return to establish His millennial kingdom until the Jews have "acknowledged their offence" of crucifying their Messiah. The prophet Hosea has told us in chapter 5, verse 15, "In their affliction they will seek me early." Not until the Church has been faithful in delivering to Israel the message of salvation through Christ, can they expect to hear that "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy" (Continued on page 15)

ATLANTIAN SAW MIRACLE OF PRAYER IN SOUTH PACIFIC

By DORIS LOCKERMAN

It has been said repeatedly in recent months that there are no atheists in foxholes, and almost daily there are stories trickling back from the war fronts all over the world that tell the reason why.

Private First Class Benjamin N. Covington, a smooth-faced boy of 21, who has fought in Auckland, New Zealand, New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Munda and the Russell Islands for more than a year, has brought back the latest proof of what he considers divine intercession on the side of the Allies. He is in Atlanta on a thirty-day leave, visiting his sister, Mrs. Clifford C. Echols, 2983 North Ivy Road, N. E., with whom he lived when he attended Hoke Smith Junior High and Central Night School.

Here is Private Covington's story: "We had been fighting for ten days on Munda, approaching the air field. Our men were getting weak. It took four able-bodied soldiers to carry back every man lost in action. We had advanced five miles beyond our water supply and we didn't have a spare man to send for it. There were about a hundred of us, and all one day we licked bushes around us to get the drops of dew to quench our thirst.

"Well, we prayed for water. We got down on our knees, a lot of us. You would too.

"Suddenly an artillery shell, one of our own, which was blasting the lines a mile ahead of us, fell short three quarters of a mile and hit right behind our lines. There was dense jungle

(Continued on page 15)

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

Text: Acts 1:8, "*But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*"

It will be our purpose in this message to show that the promise of the Father (God) or the baptism with the Holy Ghost is subsequent to salvation from sin. There are so many people today who are confused at this point and are unable to distinguish between salvation and the filling of the Holy Ghost. I wish to call your attention to the very fact that there are three steps in the complete deliverance from sin and the filling of the Holy Ghost. First is justification. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God." Some believe this is all that is necessary and that they get the Holy Ghost when they are justified by faith. But that is a mistake. That is the first step toward receiving the Blessing, however, which results in regeneration. To be regenerated is to be made anew. In this step we become a new creature in Christ Jesus, then old things pass away and all things become new. That is a wonderful experience but it is not the filling of the Holy Spirit. The second step is sanctification, which is a wonderful experience and a work of grace wrought in the heart subsequent to regeneration. We note that Heb. 13:12,13 says, "Wherefore Jesus also that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate. Let us therefore go forth unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach." We also notice in the 17th chapter of St. John that Jesus Christ prayed to God the Father in behalf of His disciples and in this prayer He included every one who heard the Word and believed the Word through them. His prayer was that the Father would sanctify the people through the truth and His Word is truth.

Now, my friend, the Holy Ghost does not come until after you are sanctified. I believe there are many confused here and are trying to get the Holy Ghost before they are ever sanctified. When you are sanctified then and there you will receive a blessing that will cause you to praise the

Lord from the bottom of your heart and it will not be long until you can pray through to the Holy Ghost. But until you are sanctified you need not pray for the Holy Ghost. The thing you need to do is pray that the Lord will sanctify you holy and then after you are sure you are sanctified you are ready for the filling of the Holy Ghost.

We notice that some people say the disciples were the only ones who ever received this blessing. After Jesus was crucified and risen from the dead, He took His disciples out to the Mount of Olives and there He blessed them, then He commanded them to go to the City of Jerusalem, and tarry for the Holy Ghost. These disciples were saved men and had been preaching the gospel, and I am of the opinion they were sanctified here when Jesus lifted up His hands and blessed them, for they returned to Jerusalem with great JOY; but that was not the Holy Ghost. Jesus said, "Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come." So they returned to the upper room in Jerusalem and there were about an hundred and twenty that went into the upper room and were there for about ten days praising and blessing God. In this number were the mother of Jesus and His brothers, the disciples and some women, and they were all of one accord, when on the day of Pentecost we find the Holy Ghost fell upon this one hundred and twenty in the upper room. Let's notice what happened, Acts 2:1-4, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Now remember there were one hundred and twenty in this group who received the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost. Some people say this was a special blessing for these people who were so discouraged about the Lord being taken away from them.

Now I notice that the Scriptures said they returned to Jerusalem with great JOY. Another thing is, the Promise was made them. Jesus told His disciples He would pray the Father and He would send them another Comforter, which was the Holy Ghost. This He did and it came just as Jesus had promised. Now we notice that Peter was not in any way bashful or timid any more after he received the Holy Ghost, for on the day of Pentecost he boldly told all those Jews that, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; and it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams! And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy," Acts 2:16-18.

This could not have been what the average church calls conversion. They were not quiet enough for the dignified church folk of our present day nor of that day. In the midst of great rejoicing and manifestation of the Holy Ghost, the Apostle Peter stood up and said, "Men and brethren, hearken unto me: these men are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken of by the prophet Joel." The Apostle Peter, after receiving the Holy Ghost on the day of Pentecost, was full of power and was not afraid to stand before men of all nations and tell them that, "This is for you and your children and for all that are far off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

Some say these people on the day of Pentecost were the only ones to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost and it was only for the Jews of that day, but we find in the 10th chapter of the Acts, and the 44th verse, that Peter preached to the Gentiles about a crucified and risen Savior, and while Peter was preaching here is what happened. Acts 10:44-48, "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all which heard the word. And they of the circumcision

which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then, prayed they him to tarry certain days." Now this was eight years after Pentecost and these people were Gentiles who received the Holy Ghost and spake with other tongues. We want to notice also that Peter said these "have received the Holy Ghost as well as we," having reference to the one hundred and twenty Jews who received the Holy Ghost and spake with other tongues on the day of Pentecost.

We would like to refer you to another scripture where Apollos had been preaching about Jesus and there were a number of people saved under his ministry. Reference, Acts 19:1-7, "And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve."

The above scripture certainly establishes the fact that these were saved men before Paul preached the baptism of the Holy Ghost to them. They were honest-hearted men who were willing to accept anything God had for them. When Paul asked them, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?" they had never heard of the Holy Ghost, but as soon as they heard of Him they were willing gladly to accept Him. I believe all honest-hearted people should be

willing to accept this wonderful blessing.

We hear people say this is a new doctrine, however it is as old as Pentecost. Isalah prophesied about this blessing and so did Malachi, so this is not such a new doctrine after all. There are millions of people today who are rejoicing with this wonderful blessing. I remember twenty-six years ago, when a preacher came to the little town of Natural Bridge, Alabama, preaching about this blessing. My father was practicing medicine there at that time. After we heard about this wonderful blessing, we sought and obtained it. From that time until this

day we have been happy we ever learned about it. I had the privilege in later years of seeing my father saved and sanctified, also had the privilege of accepting him into the Church of God and baptizing him. A few years later he left this world shouting the victory because he, too, had heard about this great blessing and was diligently seeking it. Time and space will not permit me to dwell longer upon this subject. If you want this blessing, you will have to consecrate your life wholly to God and when you do He will give you the blessing. May the Lord richly bless you all. Amen.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

The healing of my body; my daughter and her husband.—Mrs. Susie Hodge, Draper, Va.

Me to be healed of gall bladder trouble.—Mrs. W. B. Winfree, Gordonsville, Tenn.

Mrs. Ross Peters to be healed; her husband to be saved.—Bim West.

The healing of my mother who is seriously ill.—Rev. Linwood Jacobs, Box 223, Leadwood, Mo.

The healing of my body, I have been critically ill with intestinal flu for a week and almost passed on November 8. I am trusting Jesus completely.—Mary E. Radcliffe, 1012 Oak St., c/o Brown Hotel, Kansas City, Mo.

The Lord to heal me of something like high blood pressure and that I will get closer to Him; my home, —Mrs. Mildred Cralgmyle, Rt. 1, Fremont, Mich.

My wife to be healed of head trouble; my son in the army.—J. D. Miller (colored), Jensen Beach, Fla.

My wife to be healed of a serious sickness and trouble in her neck and head, she has been in bed two months; my son to be saved and healed of stomach trouble.—G. F. Miller, Pelzer, S. C.

The Lord to completely heal my husband.—Mrs. J. E. Richards, Aflex, Ky.

Me to be completely healed of a severe head trouble and nervousness;

my children.—Mrs. Mildred Dean, Geneva, Ala.

My father to be saved and healed of T. B.; my sons in the army.—Mrs. Mattie Amos, Lenoir City, Tenn.

The healing of my body, I am sick and can hardly go; my husband.—Sister C. B. Morgan, Rt. 1, Louisville, Ga.

My mother, father, two brothers and husband to be saved and healed, they are all afflicted in some way; me to be healed.—A sister in Christ, Apopka, Fla.

The healing of my mother who has a very bad stomach trouble, she was operated on about three weeks ago but isn't doing well.—Pansy Rogers, Rt. 2, Box 4, Fillmore, Calif.

The healing of my body and that I may receive the Holy Ghost; my mother's throat to be healed.—Mary Smith, Rt. 1, Neshoba, Miss.

The complete healing of my body, I have been afflicted the past eight years with T. B., the greater part of the past four years having been spent in bed. I know God is able to heal me. Also pray that I will receive the Holy Ghost. Unspoken request.—Mrs. Agnes Morgan, Ronceverte, W. Va.

The healing of my wife who is suffering a paralytic stroke, after prayer she has gained part consciousness and part speech. Please pray for her complete recovery.—Rev. D. H. Bernard.

(Continued on page 10)



Sons of God in Genesis Six

In designing this article as a study for the ministers of the Church of God, it is by no means my intention for any and all other persons to neglect its reading. The above question is one of great interest and enjoyment; nevertheless, there is no matter in the whole Bible which has entertained a greater difference of opinion. Some believe, as you know, that the "sons of God" in the sixth chapter of Genesis were descendants of Seth, the head of a godly line, while others believe that they were angels and not Sethites at all. I am of the latter opinion and I shall proceed to remove all doubt as to its validity and truth. And may I further say that while I have written this argument to convince you of my point of view, it gives me great pleasure to encourage the reader to apply the severest of criticism to any point I have offered in my argument. Only one thing I ask of you: read slowly and THINK while you read.

In the presentation of my views I have also presented the views of those who differ with me, thus I have written this lengthy article in the form of a debate in which my opponent states his position and I offer the rebuttal and proof in favor of my position. I hope you enjoy reading it just half as much as I did writing it and whatever benefit you may derive from it, do not forget to give God the praise and honor for the same.

THE DEBATE BEGINS

1a

From Adam to the flood was 1,656 years, while the time from Seth to the flood was 1,406 years. This permitted sufficient time for the multiplication of men and women upon the earth and thereby accounts for Gen. 6:1, "And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them." The 1,406 years from Seth to the flood was long enough for a godly line to have descended from him, consequently the "sons of God" must have been the descendants of this godly line, who just before the flood married into the line of Cain's descendants or the wicked line.

1b

My opponent made the serious error

of overlooking the third word of the verse he quoted. "When men **BEGAN** to multiply on the face of the earth and daughters were born unto them" started a long time before Seth's descendants arrived. If the Bible means what it says, then we must admit that it **BEGAN** with Adam, since both sons and daughters were born to him (Gen. 5:4). If the "sons of God" married the "daughters of men" when people **BEGAN** to multiply on the face of the earth, then these "sons of God" could not have been Sethites inasmuch as this was occurring before any Sethites lived. Daughters were being born before Seth himself was born, because Cain married prior to Seth's birth and in all probability he married a woman, don't you imagine?

2a

In no place do we find God commanding anyone except normal human beings to replenish the earth. Never has an angel been appointed of God to assist in populating the earth. On this score it is unreasonable to think of these "sons of God" as angels.

2b

Just a moment, brother; your own point substantiates my argument. The fact that this union between the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men" was a sinful relationship is evidence enough to show that more than normal human beings participated in the affair. Does this not exclude the idea of the "sons of God" being Sethites, whose union with the Cainites (daughters of men) would have involved none other than **NORMAL HUMAN BEINGS** and therefore could not have resulted in sin, being in harmony with God's personal commands to human beings both before and after the fall (Gen. 1:28; 9:1)? The very argument of my opponent leads me to believe more firmly that the "sons of God" were not men, but angels.

And, too, even though God has never commanded nor appointed angels to assist in the perpetuation of the human race, it does not follow that such would have been impossible on that account, because had God actually commanded them **NOT** to do so it still would not mean that they could not have so done. Surely my opponent needs no proof that creatures of free

will have the privilege of disobeying definite commandments.

3a

The fact that this union of the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men" brought about a race of giants is no proof that a human-angel union was necessary, because giants have been produced in our own society from the marriage of normal persons. If it can happen today, it should not be difficult to believe it could have happened then.

3b

In the first place, the appearances of giants in our own society is extremely rare, and even when such beings do appear they are almost invariably abnormal in health and survival qualities. But the reading of Gen. 6:4 certainly defies any idea of its being a rarity or an abnormality. A whole race of giants came into being, some of which were at least eleven feet high. Goliath was eleven feet three inches high, while Og's bed was fifteen feet nine inches long (a royal cubit equals twenty-one inches). Phenomena of this nature does not occur in the union of mere human beings.

Besides, if the marriages of sinners to "saints" in Noah's day (and earlier) produced such extremely large giants, why are not such beings produced today when children are born under the same conditions and circumstances? Undoubtedly it is evident that more than the laws of normal reproduction were in operation in the sixth chapter of Genesis.

4a

Many of the supporters of the angelic theory often misquote the Bible in order to make their position appear stronger. It is sometimes quoted, "The sons of God LOOKED DOWN and saw the daughters of men," etc. Gen. 6:2. But the Bible does not place them above a human level by saying LOOKED DOWN.

4b

I readily admit that some people are accustomed to quoting it erroneously, but an argument against the "angelic

By

..... Sethites or Angels?



theory" should not be based on the misquotation of some of its advocates, but rather on the actual statements of the Bible itself. The fault of certain individuals does not change the truth in any degree. It is not necessary to misquote the Scriptures to prove these "sons of God" to be angels and for anyone to attack the theory on a misquotation evidently does so for the lack of a better argument.

5a

The flood was sent to destroy the guilty and there is not the slightest inference that a single angel was destroyed in the flood. If angels were guilty of incestuous relationship, why were they not killed during the flood when human beings were killed? The fact that the only persons suffering death in the flood were "fleshly humanity" leads me to believe they were the only persons involved in the wickedness of the day, and therefore the "sons of God" were not angels.

5b

That there is not the slightest inference of angels suffering death in the flood is certainly true. In fact, I do not believe they did, yet that is far from proving they were not guilty. When we recognize the fact that angels are SPIRIT BEINGS and cannot be slain by physical catastrophes, the reason for their preservation during the flood becomes evident. The fact that water did not drown them does not assure us of their innocence. (Hold it where you are, dear reader; the question you are wanting to ask me now will be dealt with in point 11.)

After all, whatever sins angels have committed will be imputed unto them and they will meet their judgment accordingly (2 Peter 2:4), irrespective of time and place of commitment.

6a

God's attitude toward this matter clearly shows it to be a human affair. "And God saw that the wickedness of MAN was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of HIS heart was only evil continually, and it repented the Lord that he had

made MAN on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart" (Gen. 6:5,6). Since all persons (except Noah's family) were destroyed in the flood, it is safe to assume that all were guilty of ungodliness and iniquity at the time. This would involve a corruption of the "godly line" in which intermarriages with the "wicked line" of Cainites occurred contrary to God's will. Thus, the "sons of God" (Sethites) married the "daughters of men" (Cainites) and children were born unto them.

6b

In the first place, isn't it quite strange that the advocates of the "Sethite theory" find it so difficult to call the "sons of God" angels, but at the same time find no difficulty at all in assuming that "SUPER-GIANTS" were born to purely normal and ordinary human beings. They should bear in mind that to substitute one miracle in the place of another still does not avoid the supernaturalism of the events connected therewith.

In the second place, the complete intermarriage of the two lines (as supposed) could not have occurred before the birth of Noah and his wife, or else the pure strain of Messianic blood, which the Sethite supporters are so eager to preserve, would have already been polluted. But the fact that these intermarriages had begun before Noah's day or even Seth's, as for that matter, is proof that it was not an affair of two distinct lines at all.

In the third place, all of this stuff about two lines, separate and distinct from each other, prior to the flood is far from being supported by the Bible. Pause for just a moment, will you, please? Now be honest with me: Just where did you get the idea of there being TWO LINES? Did it not come from the commonly accepted opinion of others and not from the reading of the Bible? "Well, probably so," I hear you answer, "but what is that line we read so much about in the Bible?" I am glad to inform you that that line is the "Messianic line" and not the godly line. Seth was the head of the "Messianic line," not of the godly line. Just because the Messianic line came from Seth is no evidence or proof at all that each of his descend-

ants was in some divinely prescribed line. The line of the Messiah (Christ) was only the smallest fractional part of the total number of Sethites and offers absolutely no proof whatever that the descendants of Seth in general were any more godly than the descendants of Cain.

Is the last statement above too hard? Well, let's see if it is. In this same chapter 6 of Genesis, before the flood occurs in 7, "God looked upon the EARTH, and behold, it was CORRUPT; for ALL FLESH had CORRUPTED his way upon the earth." (Gen. 6:12.) The Bible said that ALL FLESH was corrupt, wicked, ungodly, et cetera. Is it not evident that the belief in the existence of two SEPARATE lines before the flood is only an outgrowth of mere assumption?

7a

To make this point, the Sethite supporter continues his assumption of a godly line. He persists in making it known that the Word of God teaches against marriages between the righteous and the wicked (2 Cor. 6:14-18). This, they say, would harmonize with the theory that the "sons of God" in Genesis 6 were Sethites.

7b

The fact that he bases his argument on the ASSUMED existence of a godly line makes it very inconsistent, as shown in point 6b.

To weaken his argument still further, I must point out that even if I should allow for these "sons of God" to be Sethites, the quotation from 2 Cor. 6:14-18 could not properly be applied to the discussion thereof, inasmuch as no such distinctions existed before the flood as are implied in the above New Testament quotation.

Above all else, however, I must ask my opponent how he figures that, even after I allow him more than I have to, he is going to get out of 2 Cor. 6:14-18 any proof of the "sons of God" being Sethites. He seems to have assumed the very thing he is trying to prove.

8a

If the "sons of God" in Genesis 6 were angels, then the plan of redemption for human beings was interrupted by things which do not concern the
(Continued on page 14)

D. C. Barnes

NOVEMBER 27, 1943

[Page 9]

In Memory of

MULLINS

Cpl. Paul D. Mullins, a faithful member and former Y.P.E. president of the Church of God at Hamilton, Ohio, went to be with Jesus July 17, 1943. Cpl. Mullins visited the Hamilton Y.P.E. service July 10 while his plane was on routine flight to Cincinnati. In his testimony he told of his love for the Lord and his determination to live a Christian life. On July 17 two planes collided in midair, killing all crewmen. Cpl. Mullins was one of the crew.—Mrs. Hazel Crank, 626 Barnard Ave., Hamilton, Ohio.

OGLE

On September 29, 1943, little Robert Lee, son of Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Ogle, went home to be with Jesus; age three years, ten months and fourteen days.—O. C. Crank, overseer of Arizona.

HUGHES

Sister Mary E. Hughes, a faithful member of the Church of God at Somerset, Ky., and a minister of the Church of God, went home to be with Jesus October 7, 1943; age eighty-two years, five months and fifteen days. We loved her but Jesus loved her best. She was a mother to the church and loved by both church and friends. Six sons and five daughters survive her, also a host of other loved ones and friends. Sleep on, Mother Hughes, you cannot come to us but we can go to you.—Her pastor, J. T. Holman, 146 Cotter Ave., Somerset, Ky.

BAKER

Our loving father, Thurman Baker, Hima, Kentucky, a well-known and devoted Christian, went to be with Jesus October 9, 1943; age seventy-three years. — His daughter-in-law, Mrs. Roscoe Baker, Hima, Ky.

GOETHE

Sister Annie E. Goethe, a pioneer member of the Church of God at Tarpon Springs, Fla., went to be with Jesus July 21, 1943; age seventy-seven years. She was a loyal member and much devoted to the L.W.W.B. till the end. — Mrs. Paul Taylor, Tarpon Springs, Fla.

BARKSDALE

Ira Olliver Barksdale, a long-time member of the Church of God at Tar-

pon Springs, Fla., bade this world good-bye on September 23, 1943, to go be with Jesus; age seventy-six years. He was loyal and faithful to the Church.—Paul Taylor, Tarpon Springs, Fla.

SMITH

Sister Florence Smith, Hemp, N. C., a member of the Church of God at Steeds (Bethel), N. C., departed this life to be with Jesus May 13, 1943; age fifty-six years.—L. L. Reeder, Steeds, N. C.

MORRIS

Sister Carrie Morris, wife of Ned Morris, went to be with Jesus October 17, 1943; age seventy-two years.—O. S. Lane, Rt. 1, Leo, S. C.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

(Continued from page 7)

God to completely heal my body; the Lord to heal my nephew of bone infection, he has been in a cast about two months.—Mrs. S. J. Tilghman, Rt. 2, Box 85, Grenada, Miss.

The healing of Mr. E. H. Jones, the doctors say he must have an operation but we know God is able to heal him; a very urgent request.—Mr. and Mrs. Clevan Kaylor, 414 Owen St., Shelbyville, Tenn.

Me to be healed of nervousness and low blood pressure.—Ethel Bearden, Rt. 3, Scottsboro, Ala.

Me to be healed of gall bladder trouble.—Mrs. Stella Smith, 4614 Cass Ave., Detroit 1, Mich.

Mrs. R. Counsell, Rt. 1, Princeton, Ont., who is sick with enlarged liver, to be healed.—Mrs. S. Chadwick, 1769 St. Luke Rd., Windsor, Ont., Canada.

Me and my two children to be healed of T. B. — Mrs. Lydia Hicks, Lynch, Ky.

God to undertake for my children and me.—Mrs. Pearl Swafford, Westminster, S. C.

My sister's complete healing; my father and mother-in-law who have high blood pressure.—Mrs. Cecil Ledford, Rt. 1, Box 272, Shaw, Miss.

Me to be healed of low blood pressure and many other ailments.—Josie Leopard, Rt. 2, Box 181, Ninety Six, S. C.

My niece who has epileptic fits to be healed and saved.—Mrs. J. A. Mealer, Ranger, Ga.

The complete healing of my body; my husband and children.—Mrs. L. A. Turner, Rt. 3, Montgomery Rd., Savannah, Ga.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Leon Sanderson, Trinity, Texas.

Me to be saved and healed of a stroke. — George W. Lee, Rt. 3, Concord, Tenn.

My sister-in-law who has lost her mind and has a large family.—Mrs. Alice Bailey, Princeton, W. Va.

My healing, I almost have pneumonia.—M. A. Tate, East Beckley, W. Va.

My wife to be healed of a weak and rundown condition and kidney trouble; my little boy to be healed of tonsillitis; my father-in-law, who is seventy-one years old, to be healed of high blood pressure.—Rev. W. H. Allison, Rt. 1, Alto, Ga.

The healing of my body.—Bertha Cobb, 728 Gladden St., Washington, N. C.

My husband's back to be healed.—Mrs. Lela Mosley, Box 34, Bruce, Miss.

Me to be healed of kidney trouble and other ailments.—Lizzie Watkins, Amburgey, Ky.

Me to be healed of a heart and liver trouble; my husband.—Annie Lou Kent, 21 Avenue N, Thomaston, Ga.

NOTICES

(Continued from page 2)

For your information, the Church of God at Princeton, W. Va., with business headquarters in Cleveland, Tenn., is located on Oliver Avenue and Thorn Street. D. B. Hatfield is the pastor. Our church is no longer located in the Hearn Addition; this was the old location. The building which is there now is not the property of the Church of God, neither is the Church of God connected with any of the services conducted there. We have a new building, the location is as stated above.

I make this announcement for the benefit of those who may be misinformed or who may desire to attend our services.—D. B. Hatfield, pastor.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

CLEARWATER, Fla.—We have just closed a four weeks' revival. The Lord really blessed in every service. Backsliders came back to the Lord, several were saved, two filled with the Holy Ghost and ten came into the church. Brother M. E. Law, of Tennessee, did the preaching. He was really good. He is also a good altar worker.

We surely appreciate our good pastor and wife, Brother and Sister Ramsey; they work faithfully in everything. The L.W.W.B. and Y.P.E. have

bought runners, curtains and scarfs for the church. We are fixing to varnish the floor. Our Sunday School is growing and we believe it is going over the top by Christmas. Pray for us at Clearwater.—Sister Stewart.

— — —
LANCASTER, Ky.—We praise God for the revival which has just closed with Sister Katherine Maheffiy doing the preaching. Many were blessed and the church wonderfully revived. Large crowds were in attendance. She sure-

ly did some wonderful preaching. She was loved by everybody and is welcome to preach for us at any time. Remember the little church here at Lancaster.—W. L. Bloomfield, pastor.

God Is Still on the Throne

This morning praise and gratitude ascends to the throne of grace for God's goodness and mercy to me. He blessed our ladies in Kentucky so wonderfully last year and I trust this year will be greater. Last year our L.W.W.B.'s in Kentucky raised over \$10,000, almost \$11,000. Sister Milligan



The Church of God at Berkley, Mich., is proud of its Sunday School which began with about thirteen and has grown to the size of the group shown in the picture.

At the extreme left is Brother Scott, the superintendent, who has worked faithfully to make the Sunday School a success. At the extreme right is the present pastor, Brother

Winans, and the big man next to him is the former pastor, Brother C. Clark.

We believe Berkley will do a great lot of good for the Lord and His Church as these boys and girls are live wires and are anxious to work for the Master.—Paul H. Walker, state overseer of Michigan.

is our state president this year.

I do praise God for the way He blessed me in my travels and took care of me. He has so greatly blessed us, answered prayers for us and healed in our home, especially healed me so many times.

We are in a great revival in Hazard. God is blessing wonderfully. Drunkards have been saved and some wives are coming to the altar. Several have been blessed. A number have been saved, some sanctified. Pray for us, that God will give us a great year for

Him and that these who are praying in the altar and my sisters, brother, and brothers-in-law will be saved, sanctified by the precious blood of Jesus, and baptized with heaven's precious Holy Ghost, with the divine initial evidence of other tongues and fire for service.—In the Master's service, Mrs. Dorothy Dunn Crank.

Greatly Blessed of God

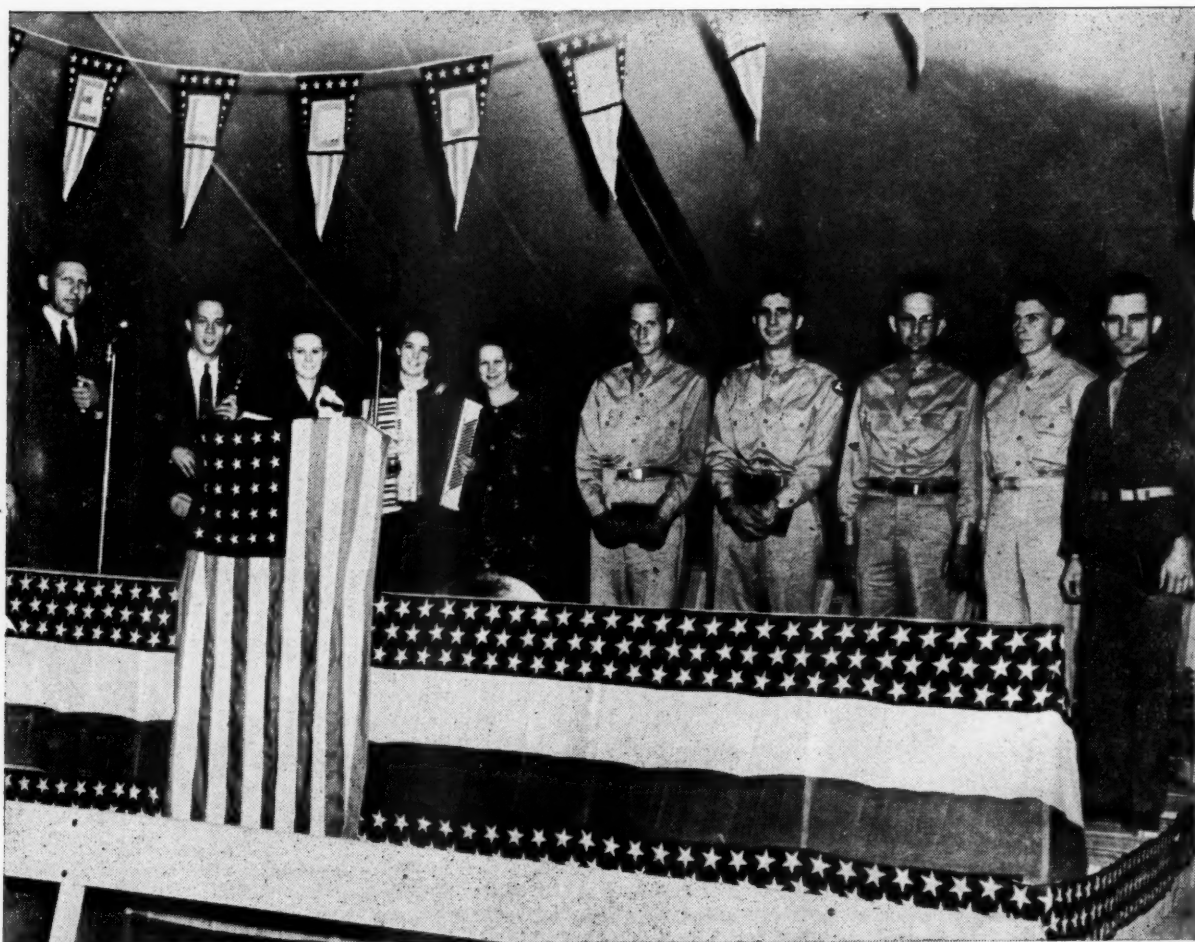
In May, 1943, I organized a Church of God mission at the corner of Fourth Avenue and Twenty-eighth Street in

Chattanooga. In June we began Sunday School each Sunday afternoon. We also had a two weeks' revival and several were saved and sanctified and some were healed. The Sunday School now has thirty on roll.

In September we had another revival and several were saved and four were gloriously healed by the divine power of God. We have all been greatly blessed of God and plan to move to a larger building as soon as one is available. Please remember us when

(Continued on page 15)

CHURCH OF GOD NATIONAL EVANGELISTIC CAMPAIGN IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI



From left to right: The evangelistic party—J. T. Roberts; R. H. Thomas, music director; Mrs. R. H. Thomas; Miss Doris Parrish; Mrs. J. T. Roberts. These boys in uniform are boys that have been blessed in the meeting. This is just a few of the boys in uniform who attended the meeting and we worked among to bring to Christ. Brother Merele McConnell had his Bible at every service. Brother C. P. Blackstock was already saved but seeking for the

Baptism (one of the finest workers for the Lord I ever met); Louie Turner, who is Catholic of faith, but was brought by one of these workers to seek God; Brother Gillett, who is one of our church members from Florida; S/Sgt. Leroy Philliber who, with his wife, was saved in the meeting, and he has become a great worker. There is much work to be done in the camps. Many of the boys want God in their lives.



NEW CHURCH BUILDING AT WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA

WINDSOR WINS WITH WORK!

A few years ago a small church was bought by the good people of Windsor, Ontario, Canada, but was not in a very desirable location. However, they felt that if they could pay for it, then sell it and build, that it would be the practical thing to do, so they had a vision, for this they did. Brother M. L. Lowe was appointed overseer and he went to work with plans for the new church and worked hard. His efforts were untiring and the Windsor saints worked with him. As a result they now have this beautiful church building with hardwood floor, full-size basement and beautifully decorated inside.

The opening service was an abounding success. The new building was well filled and the people from Detroit were on hand to help make the meeting a blessing. A number of ministers from different churches in the city were present and made fine talks. The offering for further developments amounted to over \$150 cash.

Let us all remember Windsor in our prayers, that it may move forward under its new leadership, Brother and Sister Harry Lane, of Saskatchewan, Canada.—Paul H. Walker.

PICTURED AT RIGHT
M. L. LOWE



NOVEMBER 27, 1943

[Page 13]

SONS OF GOD IN GENESIS SIX— SETHITES OR ANGELS?

(Continued from page 9)

redemption of human beings at all. The Bible was not written to give us history that is in any way irrelevant to the human-historical manner in which God has revealed Himself and His plan to us. The "angelic theory" elevates the whole affair above a human level and is an unwarranted digression from the normal development of Messianic redemption.

8b

A better understanding of the significance of Messianic redemption will reveal altogether an entirely different picture from that above. The truth is much to the contrary of what might be supposed from the above argument.

The will of God was for Christ to be born of pure Adamic stock. Satan, of course, proposed to do away with such stock by bringing in some super-human beings for the purpose of destroying it or, at least, polluting it. By keeping the SEED of the woman from being born, he would have thwarted the plan of redemption and also would have averted his own doom (Gen. 3:15). This becomes even more convincing when we come to realize the various attempts of Satan to do this very thing throughout the different dispensations.

In order to begin a new dispensation under more favorable conditions, God frustrated the devil's scheme by sending a flood upon the earth to rid the human race of this "ultimate culmination of iniquity."

9a

The term "sons of God" is used in the Bible to designate those who are righteous, including both men and women. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the SONS OF GOD, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12). Since the term is used with reference to the righteous, it becomes no less than reasonable to apply the same meaning to Gen. 6:2.

9b

It is quite noticeable, however, that in order to prove a certain use of an Old Testament term, my opponent has quoted a New Testament scripture, the meaning of which was made possible only under New Testament conditions. The term "sons of God" with reference to righteous people is strictly a New Testament expression and is

not so used until the Christian era.

Of course, my argument is not conclusive until we examine the use of this term in the Old Testament also. It appears therein only five times, two of which are in Genesis 6, and the other three in Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7. Since the sixth chapter of Genesis contains the terms now in question, logic will not permit my opponent nor me to use them as proof, for that would be "proving a proposition by the proposition itself." This leaves us only the other instances where the term appears. Let's examine them in the following paragraphs.

The first is found in Job 1:6. Just to open your Bible and read its context is enough to convince you that the "sons of God" herein mentioned were not human beings. It simply states that there was a day when the "sons of God" came to present themselves before the Lord and Satan came also among them. When the Lord asked Satan where he came from, Satan replied that he had come "FROM going to and fro in the EARTH." In other words, this assembly of the sons of God did not convene upon the earth and therefore could not have been human beings. I'll let my opponent decide between the two alternatives—human beings or angels.

The second reference of an Old Testament usage of the term "sons of God" is in Job 2:1 where another "heavenly" meeting of the same takes place.

The third such reference is in Job 38:7. This verse also carries us beyond the realm of humanity and declares the existence of certain "sons of God" when the foundations of the earth were being laid. Does proof need to be convincing for anyone to admit that the use of the term "sons of God" in the Old Testament refers to heavenly beings (angels) and not to human families or any other earthly creatures?

10a

The reason for the term "daughters of men" being used is because the word "men" is used to express carnality. In 1 Cor. 3:3 the Bible says, "For ye are yet CARNAL . . . and walk as MEN." Thus the expression "daughters of men" would have reference to the daughters of CARNALITY, i.e., the "wicked line" of Cainites. From these expressions it appears that the "sons of God," being Sethites, were

married to the "daughters of men," being Cainites, which resulted in a union of the two lines so named.

10b

In the first place, my opponent, in order to call the Sethites "sons of God," must violate the use of the term as elsewhere found in the Old Testament (point 9b). In the second place, he is unable to make the above argument without assuming the existence of two separate and contrasting lines, which has also been disproven (point 6b).

It is quite true that the descendants of men, as he supposes, would naturally be possessed of a carnal nature. In fact, before the cross of Christ was made available to all who believe, is admitted that EVERYONE was enslaved to the dominion of sin. But would not this universality of sin apply to the descendants of both Seth and Cain alike? Even the children of Seth would necessarily be children of carnality (Isa. 64:6).

Besides all this, the proponents of the Sethite theory have never made it clear to me why carnality was limited to only the daughters of one family line, while godliness was found in only the sons of another. If it had been a matter of human relationship entirely, would there not have been sons and daughters of both family lines involved? This element of one-sidedness approaches the point of being ridiculous.

And now, friend, let's continue our attitude of honesty and frankness in this matter. Is it not an undeniable fact that the SONS OF SETH would have been just as much the SONS OF MEN as the DAUGHTERS OF CAIN would have been the DAUGHTERS OF MEN? All the descendants of mankind are the sons and daughters of men, and before the cross they are commonly so-called throughout the Bible. Even Jesus Christ was called the "Son of man" because He was born of mankind (Mary). Inasmuch as all human beings are born of mankind, it necessarily follows that all such persons are "children of men." The only man in the Old Testament referred to as a "son of God" was Adam and he was such by creation. The only persons of the Old Testament other than Adam who could boast of sonship by creation were ANGELS. Surely the "sons of God" in Genesis 6 were angels.

(To be continued)

INSTITUTIONS—THEIR FUNCTIONS AND MOTIVES

(Continued from page 3)

term that can be applied to one's self, we have SELF-ABNEGATION. That is the motive of the Church. Men are fallen creatures. They are away from God. Their ways are not His ways. And if men are to please God, they have to deny themselves of the things that they want as fallen men, and accept the things that God wants them to have. This is what self-abnegation implies. If one is not willing to deny self with all its ungodly and unholy desires, that one cannot follow the lowly Nazarene. The success of the Church depends a great deal on the self-abnegation of its members. I have seen poor people, who actually needed what they had to provide the bare necessities of life for themselves, go down in their pocket and give in a mission offering until it hurt; until it became a real sacrifice, and an act of self-denial. Then I said, "There is a member in PARTICULAR, one who is bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh, one who realizes that there is a future to this thing, one who has been to the garden with Jesus, and has come away saying, 'Not my will, but thine be done.'" That is the motive of the Church. Those members who refuse to deny themselves in things where their desires are not the will of God, will never bless the Church. They will not help it spread the story of the cross. After awhile they will become parasites, sapping the life of the Church, shouting only when someone else has prayed down the power of God.

I do not say these things because our own people need them said, but because a stitch in time saves nine. Show me a church where the members practice self-denial and I will show you a church where God visits in almost every service; where sinners feel an inspiration to seek God, and a church where there is UNITY and LOVE.

(To be continued)

UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH

(Continued from page 5)

Lord (Matt. 25:21). This act of "mercy" is what this world needs most today. What have you to offer? Time, money, and intercessory prayer are needed.

John tells us in Rev. 2:25, 26, "That which ye have already hold fast till I come. And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to

him will I give power over the nations."

The work which God entrusted to the Church is that of preaching the gospel to all nations. But some say the Jews are not a nation! They are at least the people that God created especially for His glory. Read Isaiah 43:5-10. And, "Behold, the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, Say ye to the daughter of Zion, Behold thy salvation cometh" (Isaiah 62:11). And again, in Isaiah 40, "Speak ye comfortably unto Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned—Prepare ye the way of the Lord—and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed" (v. 2, 3, 5).

The Church holds the keys to the Kingdom Age (Matt. 16:19), therefore let us ask according to His will while we "hold fast the profession of our faith—(for he is faithful that promised). And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and good work: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,—but exhorting one another:—as (we) see the day approaching." (Heb. 10:23-25.)

This is God's plan for this generation. Let us get back of it 100 per cent.

ATLANTIAN SAW MIRACLE OF PRAYER IN SOUTH PACIFIC

(Continued from page 5)

on each side, but it landed right on our trail. It struck the earth. Water gushed out!

"The boys," continued Private Covington, "took out their Bibles on the spot. None was too cynical to follow the chapter someone read aloud. It was the thirty-fifth verse, 107th Psalm:

"He turneth the wilderness into a standing water and dry ground in water springs."

Has Faith in Miracles

Private Covington, a devout member of First Church of Christ Scientist, believes he has been the subject of several miracles in his experiences in the South Pacific. A Jap sniper hit his helmet and split it wide open; a demolition bomb struck sixty yards from him; an artillery shell landed right beside him; he lay on deck of a troop ship off Guadalcanal and watched a Negro gunner from Alabama shoot down three attacking Jap planes. He didn't get a scratch.

General John Hester, of Albany, whose wife lives at 124 Peachtree Memorial Drive, N. W., and who has recently been on leave in Atlanta, was

young Covington's general in the attack on the Russell Islands.

"I can't say too much in admiration of General Hester," said the boy. "I saw him on the front lines at Munda. I love that man! I saw him with his men, fighting right beside them. That is enough to prove the worth of any general."

Greatly Blessed of God

(Continued from page 12)

you pray, that God will continue to bless and we will ever be found in the service of the Lord.—William A. Grant, director, 3538 Fourth Ave., Chattanooga, Tenn.

NOTES FROM MY LETTERS

(Continued from page 2)

We have just closed what seems to me to be one of the most glorious ministers' meetings I was ever in. The house was packed for every service. Brother Paulk arrived in plenty of time to be with us for the first service. He seemed to be at his best as he preached to us and moderated the business session. Many items of business were discussed concerning our church work, and several measures were passed, which, I feel, will be a great blessing in promoting the work on this district.

We secured 343 Evangel subscriptions and several Lighted Pathway subscriptions during this meeting. Right after I came here from the Assembly, the state tent was moved to a new field, and a new church has already been set in order there. I was invited to preach in a Full Gospel church in Long Beach. A short time after I visited there they sent for me to come back, and the pastor and his congregation came into the Church one hundred per cent, with twenty good members, and more to follow.

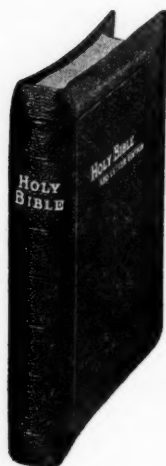
We raised \$103.73 in a home mission offering the last night of our ministers' meeting. We have two radio programs going on the district now, one over KGER, which is a strong station in Los Angeles. It is called the Church of God Camp Meeting Hour and is sponsored by the Southern District. We have a wonderful group of ministers who are cooperating with us, and we feel that this will be the greatest year for the State of California.

The Los Angeles church has purchased a lot on Atlantic Boulevard at the cost of \$1,100 and they plan to build a new church.—John E. Douglas, overseer of California.

Oxford Bibles

AND TESTAMENTS

There is a great scarcity of Bibles. The demand is greater than can possibly be filled. If you are in need of a Bible now is the time to buy one — to wait might mean a delay in getting the Bible of your choice. Order today. You will find listed below a number of Oxford Bibles to suit the need of everyone.



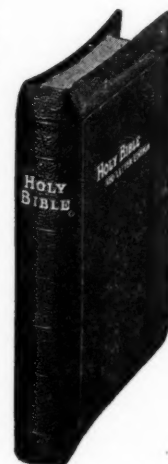
No. 0443—Teacher's Bible, marginal reference, self-pronouncing, encyclopedic concordance, maps, etc. Leather binding. Price\$5.25

No. 0812X—Genuine leather, silk sewed, Teacher's edition, marginal reference, cyclopedic concordance. Only five copies. Price\$9.50

No. 0761X—Genuine leather, self-pronouncing, Teacher's edition, with chain references, cyclopedic concordance, with illustrations and a new series of maps. Seven copies. Price\$7.00

No. 03235—Reference Bible, India paper, marginal reference, no concordance, genuine craft leather binding, gold edges. Price\$4.50

No. Z01159X—Small Bible, best India paper. Suitable for soldier's or lady's purse. Finest morocco binding, zipper. A beautiful Christmas gift. Price\$7.00



No. 0453—Genuine leather, red letter, marginal reference, proper names, subject index, concordance. Price\$5.00

No. 01119X—Small Text Bible, finest India paper, red-under-gold edges, genuine morocco leather binding. Suitable for soldiers or ladies. Price\$5.00

No. 01113X—Text Bible, genuine India paper, leather binding, gold edges. Suitable for soldiers or a gift for women. \$4.00

No. 0607—Karatol binding, large print, fine Bible paper, records and maps for old folks. Price\$ 3.00

No. 01243—Testament and Psalms, red-letter, self-pronouncing, India paper, leather binding. Price\$2.50

No. 0121X—Testament, India paper, leather binding, gold edges. A beautiful gift. Price\$2.25

No. 0558—Karatol binding, large print, New Testament and Psalms. Price\$2.50

No. 01244—Genuine leather, red letter, New Testament and Psalms. Price\$2.50

No. 120X—Testament and Psalms, India paper, leather binding, gold edges. \$2.00

Church of God Pub. House

Montgomery Avenue

-:-

Cleveland, Tennessee